



Docket No.: 216630US2



COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

RE: Application Serial No.: 09/997,304
Applicants: Masahiro TAMURA, et al.
Filing Date: November 30, 2001
For: SHEET-LIKE MEDIUM ALIGNMENT APPARATUS
Group Art Unit: 3653
Examiner: BEAUCHAINE, MARK J

SIR:

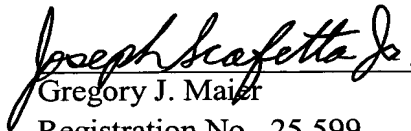
Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

**PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.181
COPIES OF IDS/LIST OF REFERENCES CITED, PTO 1449,
AND DATE-STAMPED FILING RECEIPT (FILED JANUARY 14, 2003)**

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



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DOCKET NO: 216630US2



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
MASAHIRO TAMURA, ET AL. : EXAMINER: BEAUCHAINE, M.
SERIAL NO: 09/997,304 :
FILED: NOVEMBER 30, 2001 : GROUP ART UNIT: 3653
FOR: SHEET-LIKE MEDIUM :
ALIGNMENT APPARATUS :

PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.181

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

This is a petition pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.181(a)(3) requesting that the Examiner be instructed by the Commissioner or his representative to notify Applicants of proper consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement filing (IDS) filed on January 14, 2003.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

On January 14, 2003, Applicants filed the above-noted IDS under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, as evidenced by the enclosed date-stamped filing receipt and copies of the IDS papers, including the List of References Cited by Applicant. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has not responded to this IDS by supplying Applicants with a copy of the List of References, which has been properly initialed by the Examiner.

ACTION REQUESTED

In light of the above, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner be directed to provide Applicants with a copy of the List of References filed on January 14, 2003, properly initialed and executed by the Examiner in correspondence with the rules.

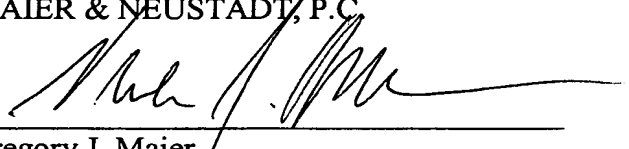
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(OSMMN 06/04)

Respectfully submitted,

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Attorney of Record

Philip J. Hoffmann
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GJM/PH/me

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OSMM&N File No. 216630US2

Dept.: E/M

By: GJM/akh

Serial No. 09/997,304

In the matter of the Application of: Masahiro TAMURA, et al.

For: SHEET-LIKE MEDIUM ALIGNMENT APPARATUS

Due Date: 01/14/03

The following has been received in the U.S. Patent Office on the date stamped herec

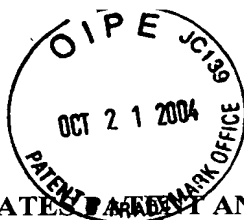
- Dep. Acct. Order Form
- PTO-1449
- Cited References 15
- IDS/Related/List of Related Cases
- Cited Pending Applications 6



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COPY

Docket No. 216630US2



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Masahiro TAMURA, et al.

SERIAL NO: 09/997,304

GAU: 3651

FILED: November 30, 2001

EXAMINER:

FOR: SHEET-LIKE MEDIUM ALIGNMENT APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

REFERENCES

- ☐ The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.
- ☐ A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

RELATED CASES

- ☒ Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. A copy of the patent(s), together with a copy of the claims and drawings of the pending application(s) is attached along with PTO 1449.
- ☐ A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

CERTIFICATION

- ☐ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- ☐ No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

- ☒ Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



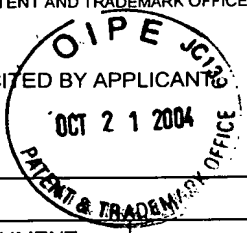
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Registration No. 25,599

CCPY

Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 216630US2		SERIAL NO. 09/997,304	
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <p>LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT</p> </div> </div>				APPLICANT Masahiro TAMURA, et al.			
				FILING DATE November 30, 2001		GROUP 3651	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,692,411	12/02/97	TAMURA			
	AB	5,263,697	11/23/93	YAMAZAKI et al.			
	AC	5,508,798	04/16/96	YAMADA			
	AD	5,762,328	06/09/98	YAMADA et al.			
	AE	6,199,853	03/13/01	ANDOH et al.			
	AF	6,145,825	11/14/00	KUNIHIRO et al.			
	AG	6,296,247	10/02/01	TAMURA et al.			
	AH	6,231,045	05/15/01	YAMADA et al.			
	AI	6,264,191	07/24/01	SUZUKI et al.			
	AJ	6,343,785	02/05/02	YAMADA et al.			
	AK	6,494,453	12/17/02	YAMADA et al.			
	AL	6,322,070	11/27/01	YAMADA et al.			
	AM	6,394,448	05/28/02	SUZUKI et al.			
	AN	6,494,449	12/17/02	TAMURA et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION		
					YES	NO	
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						
	AU						
	AV						
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	AW						
	AX						
	AY						
	AZ					<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached	
Examiner					Date Considered		
*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

COPY

Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 216630US2		SERIAL NO. 09/997,304	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT 				APPLICANT Masahiro TAMURA, et al.			
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EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	6,416,052	07/09/02	YAMADA et al.			
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES NO		
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						
	AU						
	AV						
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	AW						
	AX						
	AY						
	AZ					<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached	
Examiner					Date Considered		
*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

COPY



LIST OF RELATED CASES

<u>Docket Number</u>	<u>Serial or Patent Number</u>	<u>Filing or Issue Date</u>	<u>Status or Patentee</u>
PER CLIENT	5,692,411	12/02/97	TAMURA -
0557-2648-2 CIP	5,263,697	11/23/93	YAMAZAKI et al. -
0557-3073-2	5,508,798	04/16/96	YAMADA
0557-3855-3	5,762,328	06/09/98	YAMADA et al. -
0557-4077-3	6,199,853	03/13/01	ANDOH et al. -
0557-4390-2	6,145,825	11/14/00	KUNIHIRO et al. -
0557-4528-3	6,296,247	10/02/01	TAMURA et al. -
0557-4701-2	6,231,045	05/15/01	YAMADA et al. -
0557-4731-2	6,264,191	07/24/01	SUZUKI et al. -
0557-4948-2	6,343,785	02/05/02	YAMADA et al. -
197762US2	6,494,453	12/17/02	YAMADA et al.
202416US2 DIV	6,322,070	11/27/01	YAMADA et al.
206414US2 DIV	6,394,448	05/28/02	SUZUKI et al. -
209717US3	09/886,109	06/22/01	ALLOWED
210453US3 DIV	6,494,449	12/17/02	TAMURA et al. -
211791US2 DIV	6,416,052	07/09/02	YAMADA et al.
215227US2	09/984,090	10/26/01	ALLOWED
216630US2*	09/997,304	11/30/01	PENDING
217391US2	10/015,634	12/17/01	PENDING
221094US3	10/101,741	03/21/02	PENDING
221900US3	10/118,956	04/10/02	PENDING
228811US2	10/253,652	09/25/02	PENDING